

Gas Agreement Passed by City Council Gives the International Company 25-Year Franchise

WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE RATEPAYERS ON AUGUST 14TH—FOUR ALDERMEN ABSENT FROM MEETING LAST NIGHT WHEN COUNCIL REACHED DECISION.

MUNICIPAL PLANT WAS NOT EVEN CONSIDERED

A franchise for supplying the city of Edmonton with gas was given away last evening by four of the city council members in so far as the city council permits the board of aldermen to sell or dispose of a franchise when Aldermen Landry, Gendry, Miller and Gowen previously passed a by-law granting Cyrus S. Eaton of the International Heating and Lighting Company the privilege of supplying gas within the city for a term of twenty-five years. At the expiration of twenty-five years the city may purchase the plant from the company for a figure to be fixed by arbitration. August 14, 1934, is the date the four councilmen, dissenting from holding the election whereby the people of the city will say whether or not the franchise is to be given away, and two-thirds majority of the votes cast is necessary to pass the by-law.

Aldermen Mondak, McInnis and McKim were not present at the meeting of the council last evening, and Aldermen Hynes and McInnis were excused to come up for discussion at the meeting of the aldermen last evening, an other motion was carried, an adjournment being taken until the adoption of the by-law.

From taking the vote upon the proposed franchise by-law, the aldermen resolved into a committee of the whole to consider the gas agreement as it had been amended. When back into the form of city council, the committee, appointed to make such amendments and corrections as have been suggested in open council, reported favorably upon the proposed agreement. Aldermen Miller moved the provisional passage of the by-law. Aldermen Gowen seconded the motion and all voted in favor of it.

Did Not Consider Municipal Plant. Mr. Hughes, representing the Gasworks people, manufacturers of gas machinery and equipment, and likewise owners of gas plants, came forward at the conclusion of the meeting and asked if the gas proposal had been entirely settled and if he would not be given an opportunity to present his findings to the city for inclusion in a gas plant. Mr. Hughes said his principal wished to erect a plant for the city, and that he himself would be the one to take it over at any time the city saw fit, or to be granted a straight franchise such as was granted the International Heating and Lighting Company through Mr. Eaton. The committee was informed by the clerk that the gas question was settled for the present and would not be an issue anyway with the ratepayers of Edmonton has given an expression as to their desire in the matter of giving away the franchise for the period of twenty-five years.

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HEAVY RAINS HAVE INTERFERED WITH THE CONSTRUCTION BUT ONE WING WILL BE FINISHED BEFORE THE NEXT LEGISLATURE CONVENES.

Although the heavy rains of the past few weeks have seriously interfered with the progress of work on the new parliament buildings, and the men engaged on the exterior of the building have been compelled to suspend their work for periods of several days, the government engineers are confident that the structure will be ready for occupation in the south wing time before the date of the opening of the legislature this fall. The interior work has in fact been pushed rapidly ahead for weeks past, plasterers have practically finished their work in the basement and before the end of the week will have completed the library interior. Before the end of next week they will commence the plastering of the legislative assembly hall, a task which will occupy about six weeks in all.

Within a few days time the roof of the south wing will have been closed in. Take the floors, the roof is of reinforced concrete, and the workers have been able to put in but a fraction of their time on this job since the beginning of the month, the adverse weather conditions interfering with the progress of the work from time to time. The roof closed in attention will be concentrated on the plastering and interior finishing of the building. The work is of the most elaborate character, and with a large staff of artisans continually employed on the task, it will not be completed, in all probability, until the month of October is well advanced.

All three wings of the parliament building will be ready for occupation by the end of the month. The roofs of the east and south wings, which will not be ready for occupation until the spring or summer of 1934, are now being constructed, and before the snow lies in the fall, the building will be so completely covered in as to allow of the continuance of interior work throughout the winter months. The permanent roof of the main dome will not be started this year. A temporary roof will be provided to admit of the continuance of work on the main dome. No shortage of material has been experienced for some time past, and no further delays on this score are anticipated.

On the power house by the river bank, the work is being carried forward with all speed. The construction zone expects to complete the roof of the building by the middle of August and by the third week of next month all will be in readiness for the installation of machinery. By the end of August or early in September the chimney will be complete, and the three units, each of 200 horse power, with which the power house is to be equipped, will be in use. The plant will supply electric light and power to the parliament buildings, and in addition the heating and ventilating system of the buildings will be operated from this point. Pipes for the heat controller are now being installed.

Within a few days time the stone-work on the new court house will have been completed by the contractors, Manson and Dunlop, and the concrete roofs and floors within a month's time. It will be four weeks before the roof is completed, and a couple of months before the building is closed in ready for the plasterers. Penders for plastering have been called for by the department of public works, and will be received up to Saturday next, July 19.

Excavated in connection with the new power house will be given all citizens along the line of mains and pipes and new extensions shall be made for the purpose of supplying gas where pipes are not laid, provided that no extension shall be required for more than 100 feet for each building and the proposed extension shall refer into an agreement to purchase gas for one year to the amount of not less than \$2,000 per foot for each acre, month averaged for the year.

Gas for Strathcona. It is proposed that the arrangement will provide for gas to Strathcona in the event of it becoming a part of this city. The maximum rates which the gas company shall charge are as follows: \$14.65 the thousand feet when the total demand does not exceed sixty thousand cubic feet per annum; \$14.65 the thousand feet when the demands exceed sixty thousand and a less than seventy million.

The gas company is to put all streets and alleys in as good repair after excavating and working upon them, as such thoroughfares were in before the work upon those particular thoroughfares was commenced. The gas company is to pay all expenses incurred by the city incidental to the preparation of the agreement. The agreement for the purchase of the gas company is to be put in force before the provisional passing of the by-law. The provisional passing occurred last night, and the money shall be returned to the company after expenses of such election be deducted. In the event the by-law is not passed, the money shall be deposited a company bond for \$5,000, provided that in the event the by-law is not passed by the end of the month, the money shall be returned to the company after expenses of such election be deducted. In the event the by-law is not passed, the money shall be deposited a company bond for \$5,000, provided that in the event the by-law is not passed by the end of the month, the money shall be returned to the company after expenses of such election be deducted.

Construction work on the plant. The construction work on the plant shall be commenced as quickly as possible after the award of the franchise and the plant shall be completed and in operation not later than eighteen months from the final passing of the by-law confirming the agreement. The council may, however, grant an extension of time for the completion of the plant if there be a good and sufficient cause.

The construction of the plant shall be under the joint control of the city engineer and gas company and shall follow all rules and specifications approved by the city commissioners prior to commencing work, etc. Section 11 of the agreement shall give all citizens along the line of mains and pipes and new extensions shall be made for the purpose of supplying gas where pipes are not laid, provided that no extension shall be required for more than 100 feet for each building and the proposed extension shall refer into an agreement to purchase gas for one year to the amount of not less than \$2,000 per foot for each acre, month averaged for the year.

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A six million gallon steam turbine pump to cost \$18,700 was ordered from the Canadian Boring Company, by the city commissioners at the regular session of the board yesterday afternoon. The pump is to be used in connection with the water pumping station, and if the company meets the requirements of the specifications and accepts the order, will be shipped from England within twenty weeks. There was a dissemination of much pump information at the meeting of the commissioners. City Engineer Latornell, Superintendent Hoffman, of the power plant and Superintendent McLean of the waterworks gave such information. Mr. Hoffman in particular, discussed the merits of various pumps as he had found upon due investigation. It was the opinion of the engineers that a turbine pump is adapted to the use of the city than an upright steam pump because of the absence of valves which are readily clogged the sand and debris in the water pumped from the river.

In accordance with the order for the pump the company will guarantee the machine to do the work as demanded in the specifications and the failure of the machine to do this work will mean that the city will deduct a due proportion from the purchase price or ask for a refund as the city may see fit.

STUDENTS IN DIFFERENT GRADES OF ALBERTA SCHOOLS WILL SHORTLY KNOW STANDING. The examination papers of 1,167 pupils in the sixth, seventh and eighth grades of Alberta schools in addition to 20 sets of papers from matriculation pupils and several hundred papers from scholars in standard five are being sent by train today to the chief inspector of schools for the province with a large staff of assistants. The work is progressing rapidly and Mr. Ross states, yesterday that the reading of all the papers should be completed by Thursday or Friday next.

It will not be until after the first of August that the results of the examinations will be announced, however. Lists of the successful candidates will have to be prepared after the work of those who are reading the papers have been checked over. This will require some time after the reading of the papers has been completed.

In the number of candidates who wrote on the examinations in the highest grades of the schools of the province this year, there is an increase of more than 20 per cent, as compared with last year. The number of candidates in the three highest grades are as follows: Sixth grade, 607; seventh grade, 1,422; eighth grade, 99. Thirty pupils took the matriculation examination giving entrance to the provincial university.

PLACED ORDER FOR ANOTHER BIG PUMP. CITY COMMISSIONERS PURCHASE 6,000,000 GAL. TURBINE AT COST \$18,700—SHIPMENT 20 WEEKS. A six million gallon steam turbine pump to cost \$18,700 was ordered from the Canadian Boring Company, by the city commissioners at the regular session of the board yesterday afternoon. The pump is to be used in connection with the water pumping station, and if the company meets the requirements of the specifications and accepts the order, will be shipped from England within twenty weeks. There was a dissemination of much pump information at the meeting of the commissioners. City Engineer Latornell, Superintendent Hoffman, of the power plant and Superintendent McLean of the waterworks gave such information. Mr. Hoffman in particular, discussed the merits of various pumps as he had found upon due investigation. It was the opinion of the engineers that a turbine pump is adapted to the use of the city than an upright steam pump because of the absence of valves which are readily clogged the sand and debris in the water pumped from the river.

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City Cannot Afford To Relinquish Gas Franchise

Without offering the ratepayers an opportunity to say whether or not they are prepared to vote the money to construct a municipal gas plant, the city council has entered into an agreement with Cyrus S. Eaton, of Cleveland, Ohio, to turn over to him a twenty-five year franchise to supply gas in the city of Edmonton.

By this action those members of the city council who voted for the agreement last night, Aldermen Gowan, Lundy, Miller and Grindley, have directly abandoned the principle of municipal ownership and have placed themselves on record as being in favor of handing over to a private party an immensely valuable franchise absolutely free.

In order to be ratified, this agreement must secure a two-thirds vote of the ballots cast by the ratepayers.

The ratepayers have it in their hands to repudiate the agreement entered into by four members of the city council and to retain the franchise for the city, by voting against the bylaw on the 14th of August.

Failure to defeat the bylaw will mean that the city relinquishes for no consideration whatever an asset of immense value and makes municipal ownership of the gas utility practically impossible for a quarter of a century.

The Capital has always contended that the city cannot afford to give away any franchise on any terms whatever, most especially one which comes into direct competition with the electric light and power utility, in which the city already has a million dollars invested.

The Capital does not believe that any member of the present council who voted in favor of this agreement could possibly have been elected on a platform opposed to municipal ownership, and does not believe that the ratepayers of the city will ever permit the gas franchise to be given away.

The vote on the 14th of August will show whether or not this is the correct interpretation of public opinion.

What Guarantee Has Ald. McKinley to Offer

The resignation proffered by Alderman McKinley and his challenge to any member of the council to do the same and to contest his seat before the electors of the city on the Bouillon question is incomplete in the respect that Alderman McKinley is not Ex-commissioner Bouillon.

It is admittedly without dispute that Alderman McKinley has very consistently acted a part in behalf of Mr. Bouillon, but the surface indications are that Alderman McKinley is acting the part of the instigator of Mr. Bouillon rather than controlling his own actions and those of Mr. Bouillon.

At the same time that Alderman McKinley offers to resign and test public opinion, Mr. Bouillon writes, by the advice of his solicitor, no doubt, that he does not consider himself dismissed and intimates that he proposes to make a whole lot more trouble for the city council.

What guarantee does Alderman McKinley offer that in case he is defeated before the electors Mr. Bouillon will abide by the decision?

An election in which the ratepayers would have to choose between Alderman McKinley and some other citizen, without at the same time removing the menace of Bouillon, would not mean anything.

If, on the other hand, the ex-commissioner would himself offer to run and would direct the challenge at the mayor, giving his undertaking and that of his friends that if defeated he and they would drop all interference with municipal affairs, that he would call off the suit which it is currently reported he proposes to enter against the city for wrongful dismissal, would withdraw his appeal against the judgment of Justice Stuart, and would effectively and completely remove his unwelcome and cantankerous presence from the municipal arena, then the contest would mean something.

In this case there would be an opportunity for a fair test of public opinion. It would, in effect, be an informal application of the principle of the recall.

A contest in which the ratepayers would be asked to go through the motions of voting for or against Alderman McKinley without being given any assurance that by their votes they could effect the removal of Ex-commissioner Bouillon from the scene and stop his interference with the progress of municipal affairs would be a joke, both on the ratepayers and on Alderman McKinley—with Ex-commissioner Bouillon the perpetrator.

An Analysis of The Confiscation Bugaboo

To the suggestion advanced by the Nelson board of trade and concurred in by the Fernie board, that the government take over and operate the coal mines of the Crow's Nest Pass until such time as the operators and miners come to a settlement of their differences, the Calgary Albertan hastens to offer the objection that this would be confiscation and a violation of vested rights such as would drive capital from the country or frighten it from further investment in industrial pursuits.

As the Albertan's objection is the stereotyped answer to any demand for government interference with an industrial enterprise an analysis of its soundness or otherwise as relates to the coal business is worth while.

In the first place, the coal in the ground is a natural resource. It is created by the processes of nature, not made by the hand of

man. In the original it is the property of the government, as crown land. Prospectors locate it, acquiring leases on certain conditions, the most important of which is that they do certain work every year, failing which their claim to the resource lapses. That is to say, it is set up as a primary principle that use of the resource is the agreement under which the government grants access to the resource.

The purpose of this is plain. The intention of the government is that in granting access to the resource the general good of the community should be served; that those who are given title to coal should be compelled to mine coal in order that those who have no coal may be always able to buy it in the open market.

Subsequently companies, taking over the title, and along with it the obligation of the proprietors, acquire large areas of coal lands, employing an army of men to work the mines and finding a market so extensive that the population of an entire country may depend for their fuel supply on the output of a single shaft.

The companies and the men get into a controversy as to what shall be the proportion of the division of the market price realized for the coal. The men claim that for their work they are not receiving a sufficient share to keep them in accordance with the standard of living which they have a right to expect in the country in which they are operating.

The companies argue that they are unable to employ men at wages which permit them to make a profit. They close the mines and they blame the men for refusing to continue at work.

But there can be no blame attaching to the men. They have accepted no resource on any condition whatever. They own nothing but their ability to work. They are answerable only to themselves and their families and their only obligation is to get for themselves and their families a fair living. If they find that they can no better for themselves at other occupations than at mining coal they are under no obligation to continue mining coal. The fact that they can do better, however, proves in the simplest manner possible that they have not been receiving the wages they should have received as coal miners.

A coal famine follows the closing of the mines. The companies are therefore in the position that they are unable to fulfil their side of the original contract, which is to keep their patrons supplied with fuel so that they may not freeze to death.

The consumers, who stand a chance of freezing to death, are a part of the same public who in the original handed the coal resources over to private enterprise on the understanding that private enterprise should mine coal and protect them against freezing.

Private enterprise having failed in this obligation, what more natural than that the government, representing the people who are a party to this original agreement, should constitute itself receiver and make arrangements to see that at least so far as the consumers of coal are concerned they should not be made the victims of the coal owners' incapacity to fulfil their part of the contract which was the essence of the arrangement by which the land was alienated.

If the coal owners of the Crow's Nest are unable to conduct the industry successfully, it is they who are guilty of confiscation in the sense that they are holding possession of a resource without fulfilling the conditions, made or implied, which were the essence of the arrangement under which they or their predecessors in title became owners.

The only confiscation which could ensue then, should the government step in and take over the operation of the coal mines, is that the government will confiscate the opportunity of the coal mine owners to allow the farmers of Southern Alberta to freeze to death this winter for lack of coal.

JUST PARAGRAPHS.

Tom Johnson, who fought the battles of the common people, disbursed a fortune in the fight and died poor. Mark Hanna, who fought the battles of the interests, amassed a fortune in the fight and died a millionaire. But they remembered Tom Johnson's birthday yesterday by laying flowers on his grave, and his soul goes marching on. Does anyone remember that Mark Hanna ever had a birthday?

Two more names have been added to the list of Jeffries, Mr. Roosevelt, Mr. Cushing, Frank Oliver and the other illustrious members of the Hasben family who cannot come back. They both begin with B, and you have but one guess on their identity.

Criticism of the "Tyranny of Tears"—By C. Hadden Chambers

This production was an all round success both from a popular and intellectual standpoint and coming from a town so far away as Edmonton where opportunities for studying the best theatrical models are almost non-existent, it came as a genuine surprise. The play itself is one of the cleverest and cleanest given to the English speaking stage within the memory of the present generation and is especially suitable for presentation in an amateur club with limited resources. A sense of the cleanliness of the cast required and the simplicity of its costume and scenic requirements.

One of the purposes of these comparisons is to stimulate the production of the best English comedy in these towns where opportunities of seeing good professional entertainments are scarce. In cutting the play down to the essence of the situation and the story, the cutting was judiciously done and the interest was fully sustained to the very end of the curtain. The most serious defect noted in the production was the lack of attention to such details. For instance of the breakfast table scene the newspaper produced, instead of being an English publication was a Winnipeg one. A visit to a newspaper office or bookstand would have revealed this and it is because such a defect is easily remediable and due to mere carelessness that one has dwelt upon it. The defect was not so serious as to mar the general interest of the production, however, one of the ladies who played the wife of Parbury seemed uncertain of her lines and hesitated. The writer was informed that she had taken the part of the last moment as a substitute but he cannot take the fact into consideration in the making. The acting of the breakfast table scene the writer thought it his duty to criticise; himself that Mr. Nash was not a professional and has received satisfactory assurances to the contrary. Of rare skill also was Mrs. A. B. Watt, who played the role of the amnesiac, Miss Winward. Her acting was inflexible and insensitive, especially in the scene where the girl breaks into tears. It was only after very careful consideration and because the demands of the part are not so severe as those of the other pieces seen during the week that it was decided to award the Margaret Anglin bracelet elsewhere. The acting of Mr. S. B. Parbury in the role of Col. Ambridge was heavy, correct in bearing and admirable in make-up as well. Mr. H. L. Williams was also excellent as the butler, a type of role which is usually badly done. Mr. A. Reynolds was hardly natural enough for the part of the family friend, Gunning, but spoke his lines with point. It was one of the chief merits of the production that the characters seemed to be seized of the delicate shades of wit which pervade this delightful comedy and were for the most part able to express them.

THIS DATE IN HISTORY

July 20.
 1811—Earl of Elgin, who served as governor-general of Canada, born in London. Died in India, Nov. 20, 1862.
 1820—Daniel Webster of Massachusetts became secretary of state.
 1863—in Colombia county, Ohio, Gen. Nelson surrendered to Gen. Sheridan.
 1865—Southern war prisoners released.
 1866—Austrians defeated the Italians at Lissa.
 1868—Gen. Manuel Gamales elected president of Mexico.
 1897—Jean Incey, noted poetess, died in London. Born in Boston, England, in 1836.
 1898—Gen. Leonard Wood appointed military governor of Sanlago de Cuba.
 1902—Pope Leo XIII died. Born March 2, 1810.
 1906—Honduras, Guatemala and Salvador concluded a treaty of peace.
 1907—Thirty persons killed and more injured in a railroad wreck near Weston, Mich.
 "THIS IS MY BIRTHDAY."
 Bishop Worrell.
 Rt. Rev. Clarendon Lamb Worrell, Anglican bishop of Nova Scotia, was born at Smith's Falls, Ontario, July 20, 1857, and received his education at Mount Allison, Port Hope, and Trinity college, Toronto. In his early career he engaged in educational work and filled positions at several prominent institutions of learning, including Bishop's college and the Royal Military college at Kingston. In 1880 he was ordained a deacon of the Church of England and four years later came his ordination to the priesthood. During the succeeding ten years he occupied pulpits in several cities and towns of Ontario. In 1896 he was appointed chaplain to the Archbishop of Ontario. After an interval spent as rector of St. Luke's church, Kingston, he became vicar-general of Ontario in 1900 and four years later was appointed to the bishopric.

LABOR WORLD NEWS

Nearly twice as many women as men are engaged in the industries of Japan. The printers of Portsmouth, N.H., have formed a hundred per cent. organization.
 The International Railroad Master Blacksmiths' association will hold its annual convention next month in Toledo.
 The International Iron Molders' union shows a gross increase in membership for the first quarter of the year of 2,015.
 The annual convention of the Master Car and Locomotive Painters' association will be held at Atlantic City in September.
 The San Jose, Cal., Labor Council is conducting an aggressive campaign to raise money for the erection of a labor temple.
 Of the total of 2,333 female wage earners in all industries in Delaware, in 1909, 851, or 23.8 per cent., were employed in the canning industry.
 At the recent Putters' convention at Atlantic City it was officially announced that the putters would demand a general advance of wages in the fall.
 The Actors' Union reports that it has succeeded in signing up every theatrical agency in San Francisco, through the assistance of the local labor council.
 A committee of seven has been appointed to revise the constitution of the International Brotherhood of musicians and present its report at the international convention, which is to meet next January.
 Former United States Senator James A. Hiram, who went down in the Democratic landslide which swept Indiana four years ago, may be named for re-election by the Republicans of the first Indiana district.

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THE SERVANT PROBLEM

BY KENNETH HARRIS

My Point of View is pretty good of what she looks like for a fact. She never lets them over-task or keeps them in at night. You'd think he works very much; but all the same it looks as if she wasn't smooth enough to satisfy her cooks.
 Her voice with honeyed sweetness drops; it's almost and low, and she can be as mad as hags and never let it show. She's sympathetic and she's kind, she has a winning way. But when she's in the S. I. find the girls will never stay.
 She always says: when what they ask, their room is three and light; she never lets them over-task or keeps them in at night. You'd think he works very much; but all the same it looks as if she wasn't smooth enough to satisfy her cooks.
 If she's snatched, she can't complain of that, as you'd suppose; she often lets them entertain and sell their domestic beauty; she leaves the apron and the cap, although for style she's strait. And yet, for all they have a snap, they never leave long.
 "Why is it?" she departing cries. "What is it makes them so?"
 And, looking at her brilliant eyes, I tell her I don't know. I rather think I understand. She has the best she can. But she is just a woman—and a woman's not a man.
 I think I'd like to take a whirl. We'd very quickly see. I'd give a chance to the girl who'd put it over us.
 Of knowledge I make no pretence, but I'd know how to act. I'd simply use my common sense and freedom joined with tact.

Politics and Politicians

PLAYS AND PLAYERS

Massachusetts Democrats will meet October 5 to renominiate Governor Foss.
 The politicians in New Jersey cities are fighting hard and in many cases with success, against the adoption of the commission form of government.
 Nebraska Democrats will meet in Fremont on July 25 to nominate candidates for the state officers to be elected at the election next November.
 Pennsylvania Democrats are engaged in a bitter factional fight for the control of the state organization and the delegation to the presidential convention.
 William V. Allen, who represented Nebraska in the United States senate some years ago, aspires to a place on the district bench of that state.
 Jacob M. Dickinson, late secretary of war in President Taft's cabinet, has been appointed to a chair of law in Vanderbilt university.
 W. C. Brown, president of the New York Central railroad, denies the report that he intended to become a candidate for the seat of Senator Knickerbocker of Iowa.
 Folk for President headquarters have been opened in St. Louis by the Missouri Democratic league, which was organized a year ago to boost the candidacy of ex-governor Folk for the Democratic presidential nomination.
 Friends of Samuel H. Van Sant, ex-governor of Minnesota, want him to become a candidate for United States senator in the Republican primaries next year, against Senator Knute Nelson.
 Former United States Senator James A. Hiram, who went down in the Democratic landslide which swept Indiana four years ago, may be named for re-election by the Republicans of the first Indiana district.

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